



Appl. No. 10/810,799

Amendment dated: November 25, 2006

Reply to OA of: August 25, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1(original). A method for purifying Piribedil comprising the following steps: a) mixing a Piribedil product having a Piribedil purity of 98 wt% or lower with water; b) heating the resulting mixture to boiling or a temperature near boiling; c) adding ethanol to the hot mixture from step b) while maintaining a temperature of the resulting mixture at 60-100 °C, so that a clear liquid is obtained; d) filtering the hot clear liquid; e) cooling the resulting filtrate to form a crystal therein; and f) removing the crystal from the filtrate and drying the crystal to obtain a white solid having a Piribedil purity higher than 98 wt%.

2(original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the Piribedil product having a Piribedil purity of 98 wt% or lower used in step a) has a Piribedil purity of about 98 wt%.

3(original). The method according to claim 1, wherein in step a) the Piribedil product having a Piribedil purity of 98 wt% or lower is mixed with water in a ratio of per kilogram of the Piribedil product 0.1-10 liters of water.

4(original). The method according to claim 3, wherein in step a) the Piribedil product having a Piribedil purity of 98 wt% or lower is mixed with water in a ratio of per kilogram of the Piribedil product about one liter of water.

5(original). The method according to claim 2, wherein in step a) the Piribedil product having a Piribedil purity of 98 wt% is prepared from a method comprising

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reacting 1-(2-pyrimidinyl)piperazine and piperonal in the presence of formic acid as a reducing agent at a temperature of 100-140°C.

6(currently amended). The method according to claim 1, wherein the ethanol used in step c) is an aqueous solution having an ethanol concentration of 25-100 25-95 wt%.

7(original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the ethanol used in step c) is an aqueous solution having an ethanol concentration of 95 wt%.

8(original). The method according to claim 7, wherein in step c) the ethanol added is in an amount of 1-100 liters per kilogram of the Piribedil product.

9(original). The method according to claim 8, wherein in step c) the ethanol added is in an amount of 10 liters per kilogram of the Piribedil product.

10(original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the white solid obtained in step f) has a Piribedil purity of 99.8 wt%.